A True

RELATION

of the

BEHAVIOUR

And

EXECUTION

OF

Sr. Thomas Armstrong,

Who was Drawn, Hang'd, and Quarter'd

AT

TYBURN

FOR

HIGH-TREASON

On the 20th. of this Instant *June* 1684.

As also an account of his Deportment, since he was brought over a Prisoner, with several particular Circumstances of his Life and Conversation to the day of his EXECUTION

THe Vengeance of heaven which (tho with a slow foot it may seem to follow the offending sinner) does at last most surely overtake him, and by some publick punishment from the hands of Justice at the same time both corrects his notorious offences, and gives a warn

warning to others to avoid those Crimes which have brought him to this open & condign punishment as tis most remarkably apparent in this present, unhappy Instance. Sr. *Thomas Armstrong* who was this day Executed for *High-Treason*, was the Son of a worthy Gentleman, whose loyal Principles and constant adherence to the Royal cause in the most dangerous times, gave him great Favour *with* his Prince, under whose Beams and bounty his ungrateful Son was both *cherish'd* and prefer'd: he was born at *Leyden* in *Holland* the same place where he was apprehened, & afterwards educated in Martial *Discipline*, where always his courage was more *unquestionable* then any moral Virtue, he either was or ought to have been indued withal. He was for several years an Officer in his Majestys Troop of horse guards during which time as a *Soldier* he was often engaged in Quarrels, either upon a mistaken point of honour or the violence of passion which puts a mans life upon the point of his own or *Enemies* sword, either to prevent a presumtive injury or vindicate the truth of some trifling argument. *Upon* this Account he was forced often to flie from the severity of the *Law* to the great Mercy and Clemency of an indulgent Prince whose repeated Acts of favour would have obliged any but so ungrateful a wretch. *The* last of which mercys more publickly *known*, was for Killing Mr. *Scroop* a very worthy Gentleman in the Pit at the *Dukes-Play house*, and certainly no man made worse *use* of a Royal pardon then himself, who against all sence of Gratitude

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tude, which upon a generous soul would lay an everlasting obligation all Oaths of Allegiance and Duty to the sacred Person of his sovereign Prince, with others as wicked as himself conspired his Death, from whose bounty he borrowed each moment that he lived, he was a person most eminently concerned in the late horrid *plot* as appeared by the *Evidence* of those who were Witnesses at the Tryal of the Malefactors who have been already executed, & *when* that most hellish & damnable Conspiracy by the great *mercy* of heaven was discovered fled beyond the seas & *concealed* himself in *Holland*, to avoid that punishment which was the due Reward of his heinous offences. Since by the care and vigilance of his Majestys *Envoy* there he was apprehended and brought Prisoner to *London* and Committed to *Newgate*. On *Munday* the 16th. Instant he was brought to the *Kings-Bench Bar*, where it appearing that he stood out-lavv'd for *High-Treason*, a Rule of Court *was* made for his *Execution* on this day. During his imprisonment, he desired no Company, but that of his Wife or Daughter, only one *worthy* person an Eminent Divine *often* visited him, & *from* a sullain morose humor he seemed at first in, brought him to a more humble and Christian T*emper*; tho he *continued* very *reserv'd* in his *Discourses*, *which* is the reason, that nothing *more considerable can* be *remarked* in *him*. He had *some* Religious Books by *him* in *which* he spent all his *time*, and *when* any *of* his Keepers *came* into the *Room*, they *found him always* Reading.

About 10. of the Clock, he was drawn to the place of Execution, in the way looked compos'd but not dismay'd. At *Tyburn* he stay'd till Dr. *Tenison* Minister of St. *Martins in the Fields* came to him, he was then put into the Cart and the Dr. went up to him; where after he had wispered some few words to him, he went to prayers which were very short, and then desired the Executioner to do his Office. He made no Speech to the People, nor was observed to deliver any Papers. After he had hung a quarter of an hour, he was cut down, his privy members cut off, and thrown into the fire with his Heart and Bowels, his Head cut off, and his Body Quarter'd.

London Printed, by *W. Young* 1684.